

Highlanes Gallery is charitable body and a Company Limited by Guarantee registered in the Republic of Ireland.

As such it must observe and comply with the Governing Laws of the Republic of Ireland and applicable overarching EU Laws and Regulations, including compliance with the Companies Act 2014.

Highlanes Gallery Board of Directors has collective responsibility for promoting the success and long-term viability of Highlanes Gallery. The key roles of the board include governing the strategic business and direction of the organisation and supporting Highlanes Gallery to achieve its vision and mission. The Board provides guidance to Highlanes Gallery Senior Management and oversees the activities and effectiveness of the organisation.

Highlanes Gallery is funded annually from Louth County Council and the Arts Council, and through raised income from commercial revenue via the leasing of its on-site café, sponsorship, partnerships and donations.

Board Members

Joe McGuinness (Chairperson)

Appointed 06/2021

Appointed Chair 09/2024

Joe McGuinness is a Director of Service with Louth County Council and currently holds the portfolio of Director of Corporate & Emergency Services. He has held positions on other not-for-profit organisations including Drogheda Cultural Services as Highlanes Gallery's nomination, where he currently serves as Chairperson.

Roisín McAuley (Company Secretary)

Appointed Company Secretary 09/2021

Roisin McAuley is a Chartered Certified Accountant and currently works as a Financial Management Accountant with Louth County Council since 2006. Previously Roisín held the position of Senior Manager in a large Dublin practice managing the Audit, Bookkeeping and Company Secretarial Departments. She has experience in the Audit, Accounting and Corporate Governance of charity organisations.

Kevin McAllister

Appointed 11/2022

Kevin McAllister is a native of Drogheda and has run the family retail business on West Street for over 40 years. Kevin has had a lifelong interest in visual art, studying the history of art in Trinity College Dublin, and continued his studies in fine art and completed much coursework in this field both in Ireland and abroad. Kevin is also an art collector. He and

held positions on other not-for-profit organisations including Drogheda Cultural Services as Highlanes Gallery's nomination, where is currently, Company Secretary.

Moya Hodgers

Appointed 07/2021

Moya Hogders is the Arts Officer of County Louth. Moya holds an honours degree in Communication and Media Studies from University of Ulster in Coleraine. From a young age she has been involved in local theatre thanks to the influence of her mother, Marie Hearty. She has taken many roles with several local drama & musical theatre groups both on stage and off. She has received several nominations from both AIMS and Waterford Light Opera Festival for her work as Stage Manager. When she has spare time, she loves to write and has completed her first novel, yet to be published.

Brona O'Reilly

Appointed 07/2021

Brona O'Reilly is an Administrative Officer with Louth County Council, and has held positions on other not-for-profit organisations including Drogheda Cultural Services as Highlanes Gallery's nomination.

Louise Walsh

Appointed 07/2026

Louise Walsh was born in Co Cork, holds an MFA from the University of Ulster (1986). She was a lecturer in Fine Art (Sculpture) at Limerick School of Art and Design (LSAD) from 1988 to 1994, and lecturer in Fine Art (Sculpture) at the National College of Art and Design part time from 1989 to 2004 and full time from 2004 to 2022.

Walsh's sculptural interventions and art projects are often located in publicly used spaces or contexts, negotiated through the participation of various constituencies or communities. She is a former board member of Project Arts Centre and Common Ground.

Niamh McGuinne

Appointed 07/2026

Niamh McGuinne is a Dublin based visual artist. She has an MA in Fine Art Conservation from the University of Northumbria (1991) and an MFA from NCAD (2020). She is a senior paper conservator in the National Gallery of Ireland and co-author of 'The Deeper Picture: Conservation in the National Gallery of Ireland'. She was a participant on the Heritage Council Accreditation Pilot Scheme which launched as the Museums Standards Programme for Ireland in 2007.

She is currently Artist in Residence, Senge Group, Chair of Organic Chemistry, TCD; supported by Science Foundation Ireland. Chromophoric materials and how they can be used to mimic biological tissue is the subject of her research. She is a member of Graphic Studio Dublin since 2010, and served on the board of directors from 2020 - 2024. She served on the board of the Institute for the Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works in Ireland (ICHAWI) from 2009 to 2014 as honorary company secretary during the changeover to its current status as the Institute for Conservator-Restorers in Ireland (IC-RI).

Colette Moss

Appointed 12/2020

Colette is a Senior Executive Officer in Economic Development and Planning for Louth County Council, with special focus in Tourism, working closely with Fáilte Ireland on initiatives and new festivals highlight culture, heritage and the arts including The Festival of Lights, The Tain Trail, Sea Louth. Colette is also a Board Member of BIDS Drogheda and The Mill Drogheda.

Bryan Coughlan

Appointed 07/2024

Bryan has worked with Louth County Council since 2021 and has responsibility for the Council's HR function. Previously Bryan has held roles in the Houses of the Oireachtas, Fingal County Council and Dublin City Council. Bryan holds a BA degree, a Masters in Economics and an Advanced Diploma in Applied Employment Law.

Kieran Gallagher

Appointed 09/2024

Kieran Gallagher is a Secondary school art teacher and artist who lives and works in Dublin. Kieran has almost 20 years teaching experience in the classroom and has previously worked for the PDST as an art advisor. He has held workshops and co-curated exhibitions at Highlanes Gallery, and has been a member of the gallery's Artist-Teacher-Research curatorial group. He holds a degree in fine art from NCAD, a Higher diploma in Art and Design Teaching and a Masters in Art and Design Education from Limerick School of Art and Design.

The Board and Staff of Highlanes Gallery are committed to compliance with the Recommended Guidelines for Financial Reporting using the SORP Accounting Standard for Charities. We are also committed to complying with the Code of Governance and principles of good fundraising.